FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 25, 2004 **Contact:** Kirsten Cannon **Phone:** 702-515-5057

BLM to Auction 2,500 Acres June 2

Las Vegas -- The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will offer 2,532.01 acres of land in 71 parcels for sale June 2 beginning at 10 a.m. at Sam's Town Hotel & Casino, 5111 Boulder Highway. Available parcels vary in size from 1.25 acres to 1,940 acres. Fair market value of all parcels totals \$309,769,500.

This is the first sale where bidders will be required to post deposits before bidding on parcels. All bidders must submit a \$10,000 deposit. Two large parcels will require additional deposits of \$4.4 million and \$50 million.

Funds generated from land sales have been approved for:

- Development of parks, trails, and natural areas in Clark County
 - o Examples include Clark County Wetlands Park and Las Vegas Springs Preserve
- Capital improvements at the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area and other areas managed by the BLM in Clark County, Desert National Wildlife Refuge, Lake Mead National Recreation Area, and the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area
 - o Examples include lakeshore boat ramp and campground improvements
- Conservation Initiatives on Federal lands
 - o Examples include interagency recreation strategy and illegal dumping education and clean-ups
- Purchase environmentally sensitive land in Nevada, with priority for lands in Clark County
 - o Examples include inholdings in Spring Mountain National Recreation Area and Moapa Valley National Wildlife Refuge
- Development of a multi-species habitat conservation plan in Clark County
- Lake Tahoe restoration projects

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Under the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act, almost \$35 million has been paid to the State of Nevada General Education Fund and \$64.7 million has been paid to the Southern Nevada Water Authority. To date, 16 actions have been held and 5,655.56 acres have been sold generating \$700,539,613. Certified funds are required to receive a bidder number. These funds will be credited toward the down payment for successful bidders. Payments must be made at Sam's Town and will not be accepted at the BLM Office.